

FRESNO, CA - In the wake of recent storms that deluged the Central Valley, Congressman Jim Costa announced today (1/6/06) that the 20th Congressional District will receive nearly \$1.5 million from the United States Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency.

"The Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program is a Federal program administered by FEMA to alleviate burdens a community faces in the wake of a catastrophe," Costa explained. "Funds are allocated to non-profit and government emergency food and shelter agencies under the principle that they provide food, shelter and supportive services to community members in need," the Fresno lawmaker continued.

Fresno City and County will receive a total of \$784,428 from the Emergency Food and Shelter Program. This program, authorized by Congress in 1983, is currently appropriated under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. Costa pointed out that as of 2006, the Emergency Food and Shelter Program has disbursed over \$2.8 billion in federal aid throughout its 23-year life span.

Kern County will receive a total of \$581,795

Kings County will receive a total of \$108,786